\wg\notes.je Ehrlichman notes
Jan 1996

e.gN anxious to try cases in public, press; leak evidence; leak smears; leak charges--e.g. of conspiracy; put out classified cables implicating past Presidents in murder, <u>even if these have to forged</u>, because such docs can't be found or didn't exist!

Put out: Cuba I, Cuba II, Lebanon (?), WWII (? Yalta?) Korea (?), origins of VN (? JFK?)) Diem assassination!

Put out <u>more</u> on subjects of PP, show that PP are selective (Diem assass?), biased toward Dems; convict Dems. Call them the JFK-Kennedy Papers (but they also dealt with Ike/Nixon!) e.g., see the EGL Report of 1954, that I included!

This Pres was taping all conversations! (concerned about being able to speak frankly to President). And Prior Pres had done same. (What did revelation of <u>this</u> do to "candor"! Plus actual revelations of tapes! Yet, should Butterfield not have told? Not have told this "ultimate secret" , known only to Pres, Butterfield, Haldemand, (Higby?) and Secret Service! Or did he have a Nec Def? Did he not have an obligation to tell? Consider: why he did. (Pres and H were lying and putting their loyal subordinates in legal jeopardy by refusing to take true responsibility).

(Though Pres N didn't mean to reveal or release taping system or tapes as whole: he <u>did</u> mean to reveal private conversations, precisely to refute others like HAK. (Could he say: he never meant to reveal <u>their</u> side? But he obviously wanted to be able to refute their account of what <u>they</u> said, not just what they said <u>he</u> said. And to sell to public, in memoirs, what they said. "The advice I got...")

N was counting on hearings--"after October (VN) elections" (why this concern?) But Congress was Dem-controlled, was it not? House, too? So, was he counting on Southern Dems, or right-wing Dems? Eastland. Hebert? Ichord?

prime suspects: Ellsberg, Halpern (sic), Stein (? Sydney Stein, Brookings? (PDS note).

Later: Gelb main co-conspirator.

196: Berrigan--Cardinal supports prosecution now.
((sept 18, 1971)
Diem incident the best ground: involved: Harriman (Muskie) (?) Kennedy.

Pres always criticized its handling--liberal

Press afraid of that affair--they wanted the killing; That murder

triggered the whole war--

Laotian agreement (by Harriman) and the assassination and subsequent instability are the two basic events [a N theory: but see mil predictions and prescriptions in 1960-61, true prospects in summer of 1963, Diem negots in 1963 (pushed by JFK"?), retrospective assessment after assass,

LBJ can be with us on these 2

LBJ keeps saying JFK started the VietNam War--he is right

How to get that story out?

Gen. Harkins opposed the overthrow--
Conein
Lansdale

Brock or
Taft--demand Conien (sic) be released from silence--

...P: Let CIA t5ake a whipping on this

P. wants the entire Diem file by next Friday because of press conference...because the P's answer has been questioned

21. Bay of Pigs--order to CIA--P is to have the <u>fujll</u> file <u>or</u> else

Nothing withheld.

see 204, Oct. 7, 71 memo from E to Pres re meeting with Helm next day, October 8

5/2/72 on JEH death and successor --nomination of perm successor should be sent after the electyion---whoever is elected should the ability...

[deletions: on getting me at Capitol?!] 225

nov 30, 1972* tell RK [Kleindienst] have court drop Ellsberg. (!!! See E, Witness to Power, 334...

Dec. 18, 1972, P, Kleindienst, E: (238): P: Any good young judges? K: Matt Byrne in LA--Dem--objective. No others.

243. April 2, 1973, P, H, E. [could be largely on prospect that Hunt is about to testify to grand jury with immunity? when did he do that?] Resume of Judge Matt Byrne.

CK Yorty on Matthew Byrne.

246. 4-4-73. E meet Matt Byrne--here [San Clemente].

Not about case
P asked me.

[April 3? Dean begins talking to prosecutors. April 5: first E-Byrne talk. April 7: second E-Byrne talk; my "birthday party" with Streisand.

April 16: Silbert to Petersen: to inform you that on Sunday, April 15, 1973 I received information that...Liddy and Hunt burglarized the offices of a psychiatrist of DE...

April 18: from John Martin to Kevin T. Maroney, Dep Asst AG, Criminal Division: I also checked with Dave Nissen and he advised that no information has come to his attention during the course of this case which could have emanated from such a source. [burglary of psychiatrist] [so Nissen knew by April 18]

249 May 2, 1973 [dated in notes 4/2/73, but refers to call of 5/2/73 from Krogh, transcript of which follows immediately)